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His Majesties Gracious MESSAGE

To both Houses of Parliament, sent from *Nottingham*, August 25.

With the Answer of the Lords and Commons to the said Message:

And His Majesties Reply to the same, *Septemb.* 2.

Together
With the Answer and humble Petition of both Houses, to His Majesties last Message:

And also His Majesties Message in Reply to the said Answer, Sept. 11. 1642.

LONDON:
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DIEV ET MON DROIT

¶ His Majeſties gracious Meſſage to both Houſes of Parliament, ſent from *Nottingham* 25. *Aug.* 1642.

By the Earles of *Southampton* and *Dorſet*, Sir *Iohn Culpeper* Knight, Chancellour of the Exchequer, and Sir *William Uvedall*, KNIGHT.

WE have with unſpeakable griefe of heart long beheld the Diſtractions of this Our Kingdom; Our very ſoul is full of anguiſh untill We may finde ſome remedy to prevent the miſeries which are ready to overwhelm this Whole Nation by a Civill War. And though all Our endeavours tending to the compoſing of thoſe unhappy Differences betwixt Us

and Our two Houses of Parliament, (though pursued by Us with all Zeal and Sincerity) have been hitherto without that Successe We hoped for; yet such is Our constant and earnest care to preserve the publike Peace, that We shall not be discouraged from using any Expedient, which by the blessing of the God of Mercy may lay a firm foundation of Peace and happinesse to all Our good Subjects. To this end, observing that many Mistakes have arisen by the Messages, Petitions and Answers betwixt us and Our two Houses of Parliament, which happily may be prevented by some other way of Treatie, wherein the Matters in difference may be more clearly understood, and more freely transacted; We have thought fit to propound to you, That some fit persons may be by you inabled to treat with the like number to be authorized by Us, in such a manner, and with such freedom of Debate, as may best tend to that happy Conclu-

sion

ſion Which all good men deſire, The Peace of the Kingdom: Wherein as We promiſe in the Word of a King all ſafety and encouragement to ſuch as ſhall be ſent to Us, if you ſhall chuſe the place where We are for the Treaty, Which We Wholly leave to you, preſuming of the like care of the ſafety of thoſe We ſhall imploy, if you ſhall name another place; So We aſſure you and all Our good Subjects, that (to the beſt of Our underſtanding) nothing ſhall be therein wanting on Our part, which may advance the True Proteſtant Religion, Oppoſe Poperie and Superſtition, Secure the Law of the Land (upon Which is built as well Our juſt Prerogative, as the Propriety and Liberty of the Subject) Confirm all juſt Power & Priviledges of Parliament, and render Us and Our people truely happy by a good Underſtanding betwixt Us and Our two Houſes of Parliament. Bring With you as firme Reſolutions to do your duty, and

let all Our good People joyn with Us in Our prayers to Almighty God for his blessing upon this Work.

If this Proposition shall be rejected by you, We have done Our duty so amply, that God will absolve Us from the Guilt of any of that blood which must be spilt. And what opinion soever other Men may have of Our Power, We assure you nothing but Our Christian and Pious care to Prevent the effusion of blood hath begot this motion, Our Provision of Men, Arms and Money being such as may secure Us from further violence, till it please God to open the eyes of Our People.

The

The Answer of the Lords and Commons to His Majesties Message of the 25. of *August*. 1642.

May it please Your Majestie,

THe Lords and Commons in Parliament assembled, having received Your Majesties Message of the 25 of *August*, do with much grief resent the dangerous and distracted state of this Kingdom, which we have by all means endeavoured to prevent, both by our severall Advices and Petitions to Your Majestie, which have bin not onely without successe, but there hath followed that, which no ill counsell in former times hath produced, or any age hath seen, namely, those severall Proclamations and Declarations against both the Houses of Parliament, whereby their Actions are declared Treasonable, and their Persons Traitors; And thereupon Your Majestie hath set up Your Standard against them, whereby You have put the two Houses of Parliament, and in them this whole Kingdom out of Your Protection; so that untill Your Majestie shall recall those Proclamations and Declarations, whereby the Earl of *Essex* and both Houses of Parliament, and their adherents

and

and assistants, and such as have obeyed and executed their commands and directions, according to their duties, are declared Traitours, or otherwise delinquents; And untill the Standard set up in pursuance of the said Proclamationsbe taken down, Your Majestie hath put us into such a condition, that whilst we so remain, we cannot by the Fundamentall priviledges of Parliament, The publike trust reposed in us, or with the generall good and safety of this Kingdom give Your Majestie any other Answer to this Message.

Joh. Browne Cler. Parliament.
H. Elsinge Cler. Parl. D. Com.

His

His MAJESTIES Reply

To an Answer sent by the two Houses of Parliament to His MAJESTIES Message of the 25. of August, concerning a Treatie of Accommodation.

WE will not repeat what meanes We have used to prevent the dangerous and distracted estate of the Kingdom, nor how those means have been interpreted; because being desirous to avoid effusion of blood, We are willing to decline all memory of former bitternesse that might make Our offer of a Treatie lesse readily accepted.

We never did Declare, nor ever intended to Declare both Our Houses of Parliament Traitours, or set up Our Standard against them, and much lesse to put them and this Kingdom out of Our Protection: We utterly Professe against it before God and the World. And further, to remove all possible Scruples which may hinder the Treaty so much desired by Us, We hereby Promise, so that a day be appointed by you for the revoking of your Declarations against all Persons as Traitours or otherwayes, for assisting of Us, We shall with all cheerfulnesse upon the same day recall

Our Proclamations & Declarations, and take down Our Standard: In which Treaty We shall be ready to grant any thing that shall be really for the good of Our Subjects; Conjuring you to consider the bleeding condition of Ireland, and the dangerous condition of England, in as high a degree as by these Our offers We have declared Our Self to do: And assuring you that Our chief desire in this world is to beget a good understanding and mutuall confidence betwixt Us and Our two Houses of Parliament.

T.

To the KINGS moſt Excellent MAJESTIE,

The humble Anſwer and Petition of the Lords and Commons aſſembled in Parliament, unto the KINGS laſt Meſſage.

May it pleaſe Your Majeſtie,

IF we the Lords and Commons in Parliament aſſembled ſhould repeat all the wayes we have taken, The Endeavours we have uſed, and the Expreſſions we have made unto Your Majeſty, to prevent thoſe Diſtractions and Dangers Your Majeſtie ſpeaks of, likely to fall upon this Kingdom, we ſhould too much enlarge this Reply; therefore as we humbly, ſo ſhall we onely let Your Majeſty know, that we cannot

recede from our former Anſwer for the reaſons therein expreſſed, for that Your Majeſty hath not taken down Your Standard, recalled Your Proclamations and Declarations, whereby You have declared the Actions of both Houſes of Parliament to be Treaſonable, and their perſons Traitours and You have publiſhed the ſame ſince Your Meſſage of the 25 of *Auguſt*, by Your late Inſtructions ſent to Your Commiſſioners of Array: which Standard being taken down, and the Declarations, Proclamations, and Inſtructions recalled, if Your Majeſty ſhall then upon this our humble Petition, leaving Your Forces, return unto Your Parliament, and receive their faithfull Advice, Your Majeſty will finde ſuch Expreſſions of our fidelities and duties, as ſhall aſſure You, That Your Safety, Honour and Greatneſſe can onely be found in the Affections of Your People, and the ſincere Counſels of Your Parliament, whoſe conſtant and undiſcouraged Endeavours and Conſultations have paſſed thorow Difficulties unheard of, onely

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to ſecure Your Kingdoms from the violent miſchiefs and dangers now ready to fall upon them, and every part of them, who deſerve better of Your Majeſty, and can never allow themſelves (repreſenting likewiſe Your whole Kingdom) to be balanced with thoſe perſons, whoſe deſperate diſpoſitions and counſels prevail ſtill ſo to interrupt all our Endeavours for the relieving of bleeding *Ireland*, as we may fear our Labours and vaſt Expences will be fruitleſſe to that diſtreſſed Kingdom. As Your preſence is thus humbly deſired by us, ſo is it in our hopes Your Majeſtie will in Your reaſon beleeve there is no other way then this to make Your Majeſties Self happy, and Your Kingdom ſafe.

Jo. Brown Cler. Par.

His Majesties Message

In Reply to the Answer and humble Petition of both Houses of Parliament.

WE have taken most Wayes, used most endeavours, and made most reall Expressions to prevent the present Distractions and Dangers, let all the World judge, as well by former Passages, as by Our two last Messages, which have been so fruitlesse, that (though we have descended to desire and presse it) not so much as a Treatie can be obtained, unlesse We would denude Our Self of all Force to defend Us from a visible Strength marching against Us, and admit those persons as Traitors to Us, Who according to their Duty, their Oaths of Allegiance, & the Law, have appeared in defence of Us their King and Liege Lord (whom We are bound in Conscience and Honour

nour to preſerve) though We diſclaim-
ed all Our Proclamations and Decla-
rations, and the erecting of Our Stan-
dard as againſt Our Parliament. All
We have now left in Our Power is, to
expreſſe the deep Senſe We have of the
publike miſery of this Kingdom, in
Which is involved that of Our diſtreſ-
ſed Proteſtants of Ireland, and to ap-
ply Our Self to Our neceſſary De-
fence, Wherein We Wholly rely upon
the providence of God, the Juſtice of
Our Cauſe, and the Affection of Our
good People, ſo far We are from put-
ting them out of Our Protection.
When you ſhall deſire a Treaty of Us,
We ſhall piouſly remember Whoſe
Blood is to be ſpilt in this Quarrell,
and cheerfully embrace it. And as no
other Reaſon induced Us to leave
Our City of London, but that With
Honour and Safety We could not ſtay
there; nor raiſe any Force, but for
the neceſſary defence of Our Perſon
and the Law, againſt Leavies in Op-
poſition

position to both; so we shall suddenly and most willingly return to the One, and disband the Other, as soon as those Causes shall be removed. The God of Heaven direct you, and in mercy divert those Judgements which hang over this Nation, and so deal with Us and Our Posterity, as We desire the Preservation and Advancement of the true Protestant Religion, the Law, and the Liberty of the Subject, the just Rights of Parliament, and the Peace of the Kingdom.

FINIS.

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